

From: Ritchey, Gail (COT)
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2007 9:13 AM
To: COT Constitutional CIO Security Contacts; COT Cabinet CIO Security Contacts; CTC Members
Cc: COT Exchange Administrators; COT Security Alert Contacts; COT Security Contact COT-Support; COT Security Contact Pass; COT Security Contact Self-Support; COT Technical Contacts; SecurityContacts Group
Subject: COT Alert: Microsoft Password Phishing Scam

COT Security Alert

E-mail users may receive a spam e-mail claiming to be from the Postmaster or Webmaster at Microsoft.com that says that the user's Microsoft password (Outlook, Windows, etc.) has been reset and that more details are available in an attached zip file named "Passw_Data.zip" and "Passw_Data1.zip". This is a phishing email that is using the brand name of Microsoft to gain the trust of users so they will not fear clicking on the email's attachments. Phishing is the practice whereby a fraudster who is pretending to be from a legitimate organization sends misleading emails in order to gain personal or sensitive information from unsuspecting people.

This e-mail is **not related** to the required password reset mandated to some users this weekend by COT. All password reset requests will come from COT or your administrator.

Security Services advises users not to open spam on any occasion, and never click on attachments in emails unless you verify the source.

NOTICE: COT is providing this information so that you are aware of the latest security threats, vulnerabilities, software patches, etc. You should consult with your network administrator or other technical resources to ensure that the appropriate actions for these alerts are followed. If you are a network administrator and need additional information, please call the Help Desk at 502.564.7576.

Confidentiality Statement - This communication contains information which is confidential. It is for the exclusive use of the intended recipient(s). If you are not the intended recipient(s), please note that any form of distribution, copying, forwarding or use of this communication or the information therein is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error, please return it to the sender and send a copy or notify: securitynotice@ky.gov and then delete the communication and destroy any copies.

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